

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-5 will be pending in the above identified application.

Claims 1 and 4

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,446,249 (Wang) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,566,107 (Gilliam). As amended, claims 1 and 4 recite a selection circuit for selectively operating **only one of said plurality** of mounted logic circuits, wherein each of said plurality of mounted logic circuits is operated by setting an SEL signal for selectively turning a plurality of transistors on and off for each of said mounted logic circuits, to one of a high and a low level.

Wang discloses a circuit for an emulation system. Gilliam discloses a programmable circuit for enabling a single associated circuit. Neither Wang, Gilliam, nor any combination thereof discloses or suggests selectively operating only one of a plurality of mounted logic circuits, or a plurality of mounted logic circuits operated by setting an SEL signal for selectively turning a plurality of transistors on and off for each of said mounted logic circuits, to one of a high and a low level.

Because Wang and Gilliam, individually and in combination, do not show or suggest all of the elements of claims 1 and 4, the rejections of these claims are improper. Accordingly, Applicant requests the rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 3

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections of claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang in view of Gilliam. As amended, claims 2 and 3 recite a selection circuit for selectively operating only one of said plurality of mounted logic circuits, wherein said selection circuit includes a buffer circuit having a disconnecting section, said **buffer circuit being substantially free of transistors and inverters**, and said disconnecting section being disconnected to allow permanent setting of an operable circuit.

Wang discloses a circuit for an emulation system. Gilliam discloses a programmable circuit for enabling an associated circuit, including transistors (60 and 76) and

inverters (72 and 80). Neither Wang, Gilliam, nor any combination thereof discloses or suggests a buffer circuit that is substantially free of transistors and inverters.

Because Wang and Gilliam, individually and in combination, do not show or suggest all of the elements of claims 2 and 3, the rejections of these claims are improper. Accordingly, Applicant requests the rejections be withdrawn.

Claim 5

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang in view of Gilliam.

As amended, claim 5 recites a selection circuit for selectively operating only one of said plurality of mounted logic circuits wherein said selection circuit includes a transistor element connected in series with each said logic circuit between said logic circuit and a power terminal, said transistor element selects a logic circuit to be operated on a basis of a signal input supplied through said input/output pad.

The Office Action identifies "mounted logic circuits....figs. 1B, 10, 11, 14....," in Wang, as well as a "logic circuit 72," in Gilliam. There are at least two inconsistencies in these identifications. First, according to Gilliam, the "logic circuit 72" identified in the Office Action is actually an "inverter" (e.g., column 4, line 9). Although an inverter may be a part of a logic circuit, it does not constitute a circuit by itself. Also, Gilliam expressly references "26" as the circuit. Second, the "logic circuits" of Wang and the so-called "logic circuit 72" of Gilliam are incompatible and cannot be combined to create the present invention. According to the present invention, the selection circuit selectively operates one of the mounted logic circuits. In Gilliam, the "logic circuit 72" is **part of the selection circuit and not operated by the selection circuit.**

Wang discloses a circuit for an emulation system. Gilliam discloses a programmable circuit for enabling an associated circuit. Neither Wang, Gilliam, nor any combination thereof discloses or suggests a selection circuit for selectively operating only one of said plurality of mounted logic circuits wherein said selection circuit includes a transistor element connected in series with each said logic circuit between said logic circuit and a power terminal, said transistor element selects a logic circuit to be operated on a basis of a signal input supplied through said input/output pad.

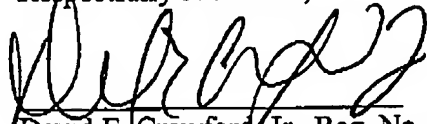
Because Wang and Gilliam, individually and in a logical combination, do not show or suggest all of the elements of claim 5, the rejection of it is improper. Accordingly, Applicant requests the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

As it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, a favorable action and Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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